

Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission (ARHC)

4th Meeting – Portsmouth, NH, USA

29-30 January 2014

HCA Declaration on Cooperative Surveying in Antarctica**Introduction**

1. At its recent meeting the IHO Hydrographic Commission on Antarctica agreed a declaration intended to encourage the development of collaborative surveying activities including supporting fund raising. It was noted that the justification for surveying should not rely solely on improvements to safety of navigation and protection of the marine environment, but should refer to broader benefits including supporting national infrastructure planning and development and also the expansion of the *blue economy*. In this way, it is intended to attract a greater level of support from the different sectors of government, industry, international organisations and donor organisations.
2. Similarly, the development of public-private collaboration was seen as a way of minimizing costs and maximizing benefits to all parties. This could be done through such things as making existing resources, such as ships, aircraft, accommodation or logistics available at cost or as payment in kind.
3. HCA took note of the options and examples canvassed in HCA13-07.2A, that it considered embodied many of the principles described in the Declaration. A copy of HCA13-07.2A is included in the papers for this meeting.
4. The text of the Declaration is as follows:

Declaration:

In considering how to achieve its agreed survey and charting priorities for the Antarctic region, HCA encourages multi-party multi-disciplinary collaborative projects that involve government, IGO's, NGO's, industry and donor organisations. Such projects should, wherever possible:

- maximise the benefits for all parties
- minimise costs by harnessing existing infrastructure
- incorporate multi-parameter data collection programmes from the same platform

In this context, the outline proposal (HCA13-07.2A) presented at HCA-13 is an example that might fulfill such requirements.

Action Requested of ARHC-4

5. ARHC-4 is invited to:
 - **Note** the information contained in this paper, and
 - **Take any other actions** as appropriate.